

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

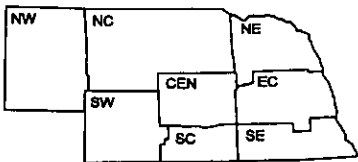


For Period Ending February 28, 1999

Issue: 03-99  
Released: 3/1/99 - 3:00 p.m.

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National Agricultural Statistics Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
and U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin  
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
Division of Agr'l Statistics  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Institute of Agriculture  
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### WEATHER

Temperatures for the month of February averaged 9-10 degrees above normal, with record highs being recorded at several locations during the month. Precipitation was light, averaging less than one inch across most of the eastern half of the State and less .25 in many portions of the West.

### GENERAL

Above normal temperatures prevailed during the month of February, causing the winter wheat crop to break dormancy and providing mild conditions for early calving, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Snow cover was gone or very limited, except for portions of Northeast and East Central counties where snow depth averaged near five inches. Windy conditions coupled with the limited snow cover resulted in some blowing soil in western counties. The mild, open conditions during February provided extended use of stalks, reducing supplemental forage needs by livestock producers. Farm stored grains were in good shape, although a few reports of grain going out of condition were received. Producer activities included record

### GENERAL (Cont.)

keeping and tax preparation, 1999 crop year planning, pesticide recertification, equipment upgrade and repair and livestock care.

### CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 60% good and 15% excellent. The crop condition rated above year ago levels and in many areas has come out of dormancy due to above normal temperatures during February. Soil moisture supplies were noted as short in portions of the West. Some blowing of soil was reported, however, good growth last fall limited damage.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Livestock continued to glean stalk fields during the month. Calving was 23% complete, just ahead of 18% a year ago. Feed grain as well as hay and forage supplies were mostly adequate to surplus, with surplus forage supplies also being noted in many Central and Northeastern areas. Condition of cattle and calves was rated 1% poor, 6% fair, 77% good, and 16% excellent.

WINTER REPORTING AS OF FEBRUARY 26, 1999		AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST REPORT	LAST YEAR
		NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
		PERCENT										
Cows Calved		22	19	12	16	23	41	31	24	23	6	18
SUPPLIES OF FEED GRAINS AND HAY AND FORAGE AS OF FEBRUARY 26, 1999												
Feed Grains	- Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Percent)	- Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
	- Adequate	87	93	43	79	60	74	52	76	72	79	91
	- Surplus	13	7	57	21	40	26	48	22	28	21	6
Hay and Forage	- Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
(Percent)	- Short	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	3	1	1	14
	- Adequate	74	90	46	55	69	84	65	68	71	78	81
	- Surplus	26	10	53	44	31	16	33	29	28	21	4

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

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P O. Box 81069  
Lincoln, NE 68501

Periodical Postage  
Paid at  
Lincoln, Nebraska

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR  
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1999

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	72	18	39	---	T
	Scottsbluff	70	13	39	+7	01
	Sidney	---	---	---	---	---
NC	Valentine	72	5	35	+8	40
NE	Norfolk	49	8	29	+2	24
	Sioux City	40	4	27	0	07
CEN	Grand Island	64	20	36	+6	22
	Ord	58	22	35	---	69
EC	Lincoln	54	13	33	+3	.55
	Omaha	42	7	29	-1	.48
SW	Imperial	71	12	39	---	.09
	North Platte	72	5	36	+6	.21